WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH

PRESSURE

A Theology of Suffering and Perseverance

Luke 8:43–48

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Luke 8:43-48

- Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any,
- 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped.
- 45 And Jesus said, “Who touched Me?” When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, “Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ”

Luke 8:43-48

- 46 But Jesus said, “Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.”
- 47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately.
- 48 And He said to her, “Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace.”

Pressure

- Pressure is the dealing with the weight of what you're carrying when if feels like you can no longer endure.
- Pressure is the strain of waiting when the answer hasn't come.
- Pressure is the cost of staying faithful when obedience brings opposition.
- Pressure is a test of faith that can develop endurance.

A Theology of Pressure

Pressure is the strain of suffering, testing, or opposition. Scripture teaches us to expect it, grow through it, look beyond it, and remain faithful to Christ in it.

For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake. (Philippians 1:29)

A Theology of Pressure

John 16:33 - Romans 5:3-4

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

And not only *that,* but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; [4] and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Twelve Years Under Pressure

She had lived with bleeding for twelve years. She had spent her livelihood on physicians and still could not be healed. Her condition also made her ceremonially unclean under the law.

Luke 8:43 / Leviticus 15:25–27

Before the crowd pressed against Jesus, life had been pressing against her.

Hard-Pressed on Every Side

“We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.”

2 Corinthians 4:8–9 / NKJV

Four Words, Four Pressures

Hard-pressed – squeezed from every side, with no room to move.

Perplexed – at a loss; unable to see the way forward.

Persecuted – pursued and mistreated because of Christ.

Struck down – knocked to the ground by a blow, yet not finished.

Expect Pressure

Paul and Barnabas strengthened the disciples by preparing them for tribulation on the way to the kingdom.

Acts 14:21–22

We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.

Give the Suffering Room to Speak

Luke records the woman’s suffering and lets us hear her reasons for coming to Jesus.

Luke 8:43, 47

Listen to people long enough to hear what they have carried.

Treasure in Earthen Vessels

Paul describes fragile vessels carrying treasure. The power belongs to God. Paul and his coworkers carried the suffering of Jesus so that the life of Jesus would also be seen in them.

2 Corinthians 4:7–12

God can make His sustaining power visible through our weakness.

Let Endurance Finish Its Work

James calls believers to count trials as joy because testing produces endurance. The aim is maturity. As you endure, ask God for the wisdom to respond faithfully.

James 1:2–5

You can ask for the trial to end and for wisdom while it lasts.

Learn to Depend on God

Paul was burdened beyond his strength. Through that experience he learned to rely on the God who raises the dead. The woman reached for Jesus while she still needed healing.

2 Corinthians 1:8–10 / Luke 8:44

Bring your need to Christ while you still feel it.

Pass Along the Comfort You Receive

God comforts us in tribulation so we can comfort others. When Jesus stopped, the woman told why she had touched Him and how she was healed.

2 Corinthians 1:3–4 / Luke 8:47

Tell somebody how God carried you on a day when the answer had yet to come.

Look Beyond the Pressure – 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

- For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,
- while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Immediate Relief and Daily Renewal

The woman’s bleeding stopped immediately. Paul experienced renewal day by day while he still suffered. We can ask boldly for relief and trust God to sustain us in the waiting.

Luke 8:44 / 2 Corinthians 4:16

Pray for healing. Pray for strength for today.

Jesus Called Her “Daughter”

She came forward trembling and told Him what had happened. Jesus acknowledged her faith, called her “Daughter,” and sent her away in peace.

Luke 8:47–48

She reached for His garment, and He stopped to hear her story.

Stay Faithful Under Pressure

Revelation calls the church in Smyrna to faithfulness even under threat of death. Hebrews tells weary believers to run with endurance and keep their eyes on Jesus.

Revelation 2:8–11 / Hebrews 12:1–3

When you’re too weary to see ten steps ahead, take the next faithful step.

Faithfulness and Endurance

Faithfulness keeps obeying Christ when obedience costs something. Endurance keeps running when the race grows long. Consider what Jesus endured when you feel weary.

Revelation 2:10 / Hebrews 12:2–3

What has pressure made you want to stop doing that Christ still calls you to do?

Longsuffering With People

Paul calls believers to put on longsuffering, bear with one another, and forgive as Christ forgave them. Pressure can make us impatient with the very people God has given us to love.

Colossians 3:12–13 / Galatians 5:22–23

Ask the Spirit for patience before you answer out of exhaustion.

Persevere in Prayer

Paul links hope, patience in tribulation, and continuing steadfastly in prayer. Bring the same burden to God again and let others help you carry it.

Romans 12:12 / Galatians 6:2

Sometimes perseverance is one more honest prayer from somebody who’s tired.

Jairus Is Still Waiting

Jairus sees Jesus heal the woman while his own daughter is dying. Then the news comes that his daughter has died. Jesus answers him, “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

Luke 8:41–42, 48–50 / NKJV

You can rejoice at somebody else’s testimony and still bring Jesus your own pain.

Coming to Christ Is Worth the Press

She came after twelve years of suffering. She came forward trembling. Jesus heard her, called her “Daughter,” and sent her away in peace. Her FAITH made her well…

Luke 8:43–48

Whatever pressure you’re under today, bring it to Jesus.

Altar Call

- If you've never trusted Christ, turn to Him today. Jesus died for our sins and rose again.
- If you're weary or close to giving up, come for prayer.
- Ask for healing, strength, or help taking your next faithful step.

You can come trembling. Coming to Christ is worth the press.